

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Robert William Dobbs et al.

Serial No.: 10/619,026

Filed: July 14, 2003

Docket No.: 200205329-1 (H300.205.101)

Title: ASSEMBLY FOR SUPPORTING A SHORT PRINTED CIRCUIT CARD

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**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1, 7, 13, 20, 24, and 26 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An assembly for supporting a short printed circuit card having a first edge in a computer system, the assembly comprising:

a card slot separator disposed in a plane parallel to the short printed circuit card; and  
at least one card support block having a card receptor adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card, wherein the at least one card support block is adapted to couple and be movably attached to the card slot separator, and wherein the at least one card support block is adapted to be selectively positioned for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.

2. (Original) The card support block of claim 1, wherein the short printed circuit card has a width along the first edge, and further wherein the card support block is couplable to the short printed circuit card for substantially the full width along the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the card slot separator has channels adapted to couple with the at least one card support block such that the at least one card support block is adapted to be selectively positioned for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.

4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the card slot separator has one channel adapted to couple with the at least one card support block such that the at least one card support block is adapted to be selectively positioned for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.

5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the card receptor is height adjustable to couple with first edges of short printed circuit cards of varying thickness.

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6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block is coupled to the card slot separator via a coupling device selected from the group consisting of clamps, latches, lever, bolts, spring actuated assemblies, and pins.

7. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block is ~~movably attached to the card slot separator to enable~~ hot swapping of the short printed circuit card.

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the card support block defines a spiral receptor groove configured to provide a variable vertical card receptor position adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

9. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block is couplable to the card slot separator in at least one position along the card slot separator.

10. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block is couplable to the card slot separator in at least four positions along the card slot separator.

11. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block includes an incrementally positionable card receptor adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

12. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one card support block is electrically non-conductive.

13. (Currently amended) An assembly coupled to a card slot separator in a computer system for supporting a short printed circuit card having a first edge, the assembly comprising:

at least one card support block movably attached to the card slot separator and having a card receptor adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card; and

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a coupling device adapted to secure the at least one card support block to the card slot separator.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the coupling device is selected from the group consisting of clamps, latches, lever, bolts, spring actuated assemblies, and pins.

15. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the short printed circuit card has a width along the first edge, and further wherein the card support block is couplable to the short printed circuit card for substantially the full width along the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

16. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the coupling device is configured to couple to the card slot separator via channels formed in the card slot separator such that the at least one card support block is adapted to be selectively positioned for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.

17. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the coupling device is configured to couple to the card slot separator via one channel formed in the card slot separator such that the at least one card support block is adapted to be selectively positioned for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.

18. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the card receptor is height adjustable to couple with first edges of short printed circuit cards of varying thickness.

19. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the at least one card support block is couplable to the card slot separator in at least one position.

20. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the at least one card support block is movably attached to the card slot separator to enable hot swapping of the short printed circuit card.

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21. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the card support block defines a spiral receptor groove configured to provide a variable vertical card receptor position adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

22. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the at least one card support block is couplable to the card slot separator in at least four positions along the card slot separator.

23. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the at least one card support block includes an incrementally positionable card receptor adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card.

24. (Currently amended) A method of supporting a short printed circuit card in a computer system, the method comprising:

inserting the short printed circuit card into the computer system;

~~coupling~~ movably attaching at least one card support block to a card slot separator;

traversing the at least one card support block along the card slot separator until the at least one card support block is adjacent to the short printed circuit card;

coupling the at least one card support block to a first edge of the short printed circuit card; and

securing the at least one card support block to the card slot separator.

25. (Original) A method of supporting a short printed circuit card having an interior edge coupled to at least one card support block, wherein the short printed circuit card is insertable into a computer system having a bulkhead guide, a connector plane, and a card slot separator, the method comprising:

inserting the short printed circuit card into the computer system;

mechanically coupling the short printed circuit card to the bulkhead guide;

mechanically and electrically coupling the short printed circuit card to the connector plane; and

coupling the at least one card support block to the card slot separator.

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26. (Currently amended)      An assembly for supporting a short printed circuit card having a first edge in a computer system, the assembly comprising:

    a card slot separator disposed in a plane parallel to the short printed circuit card;

    at least one card support block having a card receptor adapted to couple with the first edge of the short printed circuit card, wherein the at least one card support block is adapted to couple and be movably attached to the card slot separator; and

    means for selectively positioning the at least one card support block for reception of the first edge of the short printed circuit card in a plurality of positions along the card slot separator.